

(1) The Commission will notify the debtor of its intent to refer the debt to the IRS for offset against the debtor's Federal income tax refund if it sustains its decision that the debt is past-due and legally enforceable. The Commission will also notify the debtor whether the amount of the debt remains the same or is modified; and

(2) The Commission will not refer the debt to the IRS for offset against the debtor's Federal income tax refund if it reverses its decision that the debt is past due and legally enforceable.

§ 204.55 Change in notification to Internal Revenue Service.

(a) Except as noted in paragraph (b) of this section, after the Commission sends the IRS notification of an individual's liability for a debt, the Commission will promptly notify the IRS of any change in the notification, if the Commission:

(1) Determines that an error has been made with respect to the information contained in the notification;

(2) Receives a payment or credits a payment to the account of the debtor named in the notification that reduces the amount of the debt referred to the IRS for offset; or

(3) Receives notification that the individual owing the debt has filed for bankruptcy under Title 11 of the United States Code or has been adjudicated bankrupt and the debt has been discharged.

(b) The Commission will not notify the IRS to increase the amount of a debt owed by a debtor named in the Commission's original notification to the IRS.

(c) If the amount of a debt is reduced after referral by the Commission and offset by the IRS, the Commission will refund to the debtor any excess amount and will promptly notify the IRS of any refund made by the Commission.

§ 204.56 Administrative charges.

All administrative charges incurred in connection with the referral of the debts to the IRS will be assessed on the debt and thus increase the amount of the offset.

§§ 204.57—204.74 [Reserved]

Subpart D—Miscellaneous: Credit Bureau Reporting, Collection Services

AUTHORITY: 31 U.S.C. 3701, 3711, 3718.

SOURCE: 58 FR 64373, Dec. 7, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

§ 204.75 Collection services.

Section 13 of the Debt Collection Act (31 U.S.C. 3718) authorizes agencies to enter into contracts for collection services to recover debts owed the United States. The Act requires that certain provisions be contained in such contracts, including:

(a) The agency retains the authority to resolve a dispute, including the authority to terminate a collection action or refer the matter to the Attorney General for civil remedies; and

(b) The contractor is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, as it applies to private contractors, as well as subject to State and Federal laws governing debt collection practices.

§ 204.76 Use of credit bureau or consumer reporting agencies.

(a) The Commission may report delinquent debts to consumer reporting agencies (See 31 U.S.C. 3701(a)(3), 3711). Sixty days prior to release of information to a consumer reporting agency, the debtor shall be notified, in writing, of the intent to disclose the existence of the debt to a consumer reporting agency. Such notice of intent may be a separate correspondence or included in correspondence demanding direct payment. The notice shall be in conformance with 31 U.S.C. 3711(f) and the Federal Claims Collection Standards. The Commission shall provide, in this notice, the debtor with:

(1) An opportunity to inspect and copy agency records pertaining to the debt;

(2) An opportunity for an administrative review of the legal enforceability or past due status of the debt;

(3) An opportunity to enter into a repayment agreement on terms satisfactory to the Commission to prevent the Commission from reporting the debt as

overdue to consumer reporting agencies, and provide deadlines and method for requesting this relief;

(4) An explanation of the rate of interest that will accrue on the debt, that all costs incurred to collect the debt will be charged to the debtor, the authority for assessing these costs, and the manner in which the Commission will calculate the amount of these cost;

(5) An explanation that the Commission will report the debt to the consumer reporting agencies to the detriment of the debtor's credit rating; and

(6) A description of the collection actions that the agency may take in the future if those presently proposed actions do not result in repayment of the loan obligation, including the filing of a lawsuit against the borrower by the agency and assignment of the debt for collection by offset against Federal income tax refunds or the filing of a lawsuit against the debtor by the Federal Government.

(b) The information that may be disclosed to the consumer reporting agency is limited to:

(1) The debtor's name, address, social security number or taxpayer identification number, and any other information necessary to establish the identity of the individual;

(2) The amount, status, and history of the claim; and

(3) The Commission program or activity under which the claim arose.

§ 204.77 Referrals to collection agencies.

(a) The Commission has authority to contract for collection services to recover delinquent debts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(c) and the Federal Claims Collection Standards (4 CFR 102.6).

(b) The Commission will use private collection agencies where it determines that their use is in the best interest of the Government. Where the Commission determines that there is a need to contract for collection services, the contract will provide that:

(1) The authority to resolve disputes, compromise claims, suspend or terminate collection action, or refer the matter to the Department of Justice for litigation or to take any other ac-

tion under this part will be retained by the Commission;

(2) Contractors are subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, to the extent specified in 5 U.S.C. 552a(m) and to applicable Federal and State laws and regulations pertaining to debt collection practices, such as the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. 1692;

(3) The contractor is required to strictly account for all amounts collected;

(4) The contractor must agree that uncollectible accounts shall be returned with appropriate documentation to enable Commission to determine whether to pursue collection through litigation or to terminate collection; and

(5) The contractor must agree to provide any data in its files relating to paragraphs (a) (1), (2) and (3) of Section 105.2 of the Federal Claims Collection Standards upon returning the account to the Commission for subsequent referral to the Department of Justice for litigation.

(c) The Commission will not use a collection agency to collect a debt owed by a current employed or retired Federal employee, if collection by salary or annuity offset is available.

PART 209—FORMS PRESCRIBED UNDER THE COMMISSION'S RULES OF PRACTICE

Sec.

209.0-1 Availability of forms.

209.1 Form D-A: Disclosure of assets and financial information.

AUTHORITY: 15 U.S.C. 77h-1, 77u, 78u-2, 78u-3, 78v, 78w, 80a-9, 80a-37, 80a-38, 80a39, 80a-40, 80a-41, 80a-44, 80b-3, 80b-9, 80b-11, and 80b-12, unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 60 FR 32823, June 23, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

§ 209.0-1 Availability of forms.

(a) This part identifies and describes the forms for use under the Securities and Exchange Commission's Rules of Practice, part 201 of this chapter.

(b) Any person may obtain a copy of any form prescribed for use in this part by written request to the Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Any person may inspect the forms at